

CURRICULUM VITAE

Elizabeth Bennett
1250 Bunche Hall, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA 90095
embennett@ucla.edu

EDUCATION

2019-Present

University of California, Los Angeles
Doctor of Philosophy in Geography (in progress)
Supervisor: Dr. Kelly Kay
Dissertation Committee: Drs. Kelly Kay, Shaina Potts, William Boyd, and Susanna Hecht

- Interests include political ecology, critical geographic political economy, legal geographies, critical restoration studies.
- Extracurricular activities: UCLA Graduate Writing Center Dissertation Prospectus Boot Camp (June-July 2022), Graduate Affairs Committee Representative for the Geography Graduate Student Association, UCLA (May 2020-present), (May 2020-June 2021); participated in Dr. Kelly Kay's political ecology reading group (October 2019-present), participated in Dr. Shaina Potts's legal geographies study group (April-June 2021), Dr. Sheppard's land and political economy study group (October-December 2019)

09/2017-05/2019

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
Master of Arts in Pacific Islands Studies
Supervisor: Dr. Alexander Mawyer

- Attended the University of Hawai'i - Australian National University Palau Field School
- Attended University of Hawai'i Tahitian intensive language study in Tahiti and Mo'orea, French Polynesia
- Interests include natural resource extraction, tourism, human/nature relations, science and technology studies, and media studies.
- Comprehensive examinations passed April 2018. MA Thesis proposal defense passed September 2018. Final defense passed March 2019. Fall 2019: studied abroad at the University of French Polynesia in Puna'auia, Tahiti, French Polynesia

08/2013-05/2017

Vassar College
Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology, minor in Art History
Thesis advisor: Dr. Martha Kaplan

- Departmental honors at graduation. Interests included museum studies, natural resources management, tourism studies, and visual anthropology. Participated in the following extracurricular activities: Varsity women's rugby (August 2013-April 2017), House Team/Residential Advisor (August 2014-May 2015, January 2016-May 2016), Daisy Chain (February-May 2015), Anthropology Majors Committee (2015-2017). Studied abroad in Sāmoa from August-December 2015.

EMPLOYMENT

2023

Teaching Associate

- People and Earth's Ecosystems (GEOG 5) – UCLA. Instructor: Dr. Lilia Illes
- Led two in-person discussion sections for an introductory course – facilitated classroom discussion through active learning activities, held virtual and in-person office hours, graded laboratory assignments and exams.

Teaching Associate

- Introduction to Cultural Geography (GEOG 3) – UCLA. Instructor: Dr. Juan Herrera
- Led two in-person discussion sections for an introductory course – facilitated classroom discussion through active learning activities, held virtual and in-person office hours, graded term papers and exams.

2022

Teaching Associate

- Globalization, Markets, and Regional Development (GEOG 4) – UCLA. Instructor: Dr. Ali Hamdan
- Led two in-person discussion sections for an introductory course – facilitated classroom discussion through active learning activities, held virtual and in-person office hours, graded term papers and exams.

Teaching Associate

- Feminist Geography (GEOG 141/GENDER M144) – UCLA. Instructor: Dr. Lieba Faier
- Holds in-person office hours and aids in facilitation of classroom discussions. Grades essay exams.

2021

Teaching Associate

- Population Geography (GEOG 158) – UCLA. Asynchronous. Instructor: Dr. Jamie Goodwin-White
- Held meetings in-person and over Zoom with students, graded, created material intended to teach writing and research skills for students in an upper-division course

Teaching Assistant

- Geography of North America (GEOG 171A) – UCLA. On Zoom. Instructor: Dr. Kelly Kay
- Guest lectured, graded papers and participation, moderated Zoom chats, and held office hours for a live and recorded upper-division course.

Teaching Assistant

- Introduction to Cultural Geography (GEOG 3) – UCLA. On Zoom. Instructor: Dr. Lieba Faier (Winter 2021)

- Led discussion sections for an introductory course, graded term papers and exams. Attended a pedagogical course and participated in teaching workshops.
- 2020 Teaching Assistant
- Introduction to Cultural Geography (GEOG 3) – UCLA. On Zoom. Instructor: Dr. Lieba Faier (Fall 2020)
 - Led discussion sections for an introductory course, graded term papers and exams. Attended a pedagogical course and participated in teaching workshops.
- Reader
- Introduction to Globalization (GLBLST 1) - UCLA. On Zoom. Instructor: Adina Matisoff
 - Graded response papers and assignments for an introductory course that took place during the summer term.
- 2019 Reader
- North America (GEOG 180) - UCLA. Instructor: Dr. Kelly Kay
 - Read and graded written assignments for a lower-division geography class, proctored a midterm exam
- 2016-2017 Intern, United States Department of State Virtual Internship Program
- Researched and compiled briefs on historically significant objects housed in the United States Department of State Diplomatic Reception Room.
- 06-08/2016 Summer Intern, Fondation Hironnelle
- Helped write research briefs for a project dedicated to promoting climate-focused journalism in Sierra Leone.
- 01-05/2016 Floor Fellow, Vassar College Office of Residential Life
- Provided guidance and support to second-year and older students. Helped organize dorm-wide, floor-wide, and college-wide events such as dances, dinners, movie screenings, field trips, and more
- 2014-2015 Student Fellow (Residential Advisor equivalent)
- Facilitated orientation activities. Provided guidance and support to first-year students. Received suicide prevention training. Helped organize dorm-wide, floor-wide, and college-wide events such as dances, dinners, movie screenings, field trips, and more.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

07/2022 Peer Reviewer, Australian Journal of French Studies, one article

05/2020-06/2021

Graduate Affairs Committee Representative for the Geography Graduate Student Association

- Acted as liaison between the GGSA and the Graduate Affairs Committee for the UCLA Department of Geography

2018 Facilitator, Wednesday Evening Seminar
East-West Center

- Led discussion groups during a weekly seminar series at the East-West Center. The groups consisted of graduate students from all over the world, who met in these groups after presentations were given by scholars and community members. Used intercultural competence, facilitation, and conflict resolution skills to facilitate collaborative discussions.

FUNDING, ACADEMIC HONORS, AND AWARDS

03/2023 Honorable Mention

- American Association of Geographers Legal Geography Specialty Group Student Paper Competition

07/2022 Summer Research Travel Award

- US\$1000 for research support
- Funded by the UCLA Geography Department

07-09/2021 Summer Mentored Research Fellowship Award

- US\$6000 for research support
- Funded by the UCLA Geography Department

09-12/2019 Graduate Dean's Scholar Award

- Tuition support and US\$2500 per quarter
- Funded by UCLA Graduate Division

08/2018-05/2019 Foreign Language and Area Studies Scholarship

- US\$7500 per semester and full tuition support given by the United States
- Funded by Department of Education and the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. Yearlong fellowship funding Tahitian language study.

2018 Samuel H. Elbert Graduate Scholarship Fund in Hawaiian and Polynesian Languages

- US\$1000 given to facilitate study Tahitian language study

Na Nei Tou i Loloma Research Award

- US\$1500 given to pay for transit to and from French Polynesia for an intensive language course
- Funded by University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Center for Pacific Islands Studies

08/2017-05/2019 Student Affiliate, East-West Center

- Participated in Pan-Pacific Association and facilitated discussion groups for Wednesday Evening Seminar

2017 Center for Pacific Islands Studies Merit Scholarship - University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
Departmental Honors at graduation - Vassar College Department of Anthropology

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed

2022 Selling Seasteading: Rhetoric, Accumulation, and Appropriation of Space in French Polynesia
(under review)
Special Issue: *Earthly volumes, voluminous materialities: Working with apprehension Territory, Politics, Governance*

Non-Peer-Reviewed

2019 Event Review: Cultural Animation Film Festival
The Contemporary Pacific.

2016 Interview: Mark Dion

- Interview of artist Mark Dion published in exhibit publication at the Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center, Vassar College.

Unpublished Manuscripts

05/2019

Consuming Transformed Islands: Representing Human Interactions with Mobility Infrastructures with GoPro Cameras in Tahiti Nui, Mā'ohi Nui/French Polynesia

- Master of Arts thesis. Final defense passed March 2019. Proposal submitted and proposal defense passed September 2018. Committee: Dr. Alexander Mawyer (chairperson), Dr. Tarcisius Kabutaulaka, Dr. Mary Mostafanezhad.

05/2017

Representations and Belonging: The Social Contexts of Museums in Fiji and Sāmoa

- Bachelor of Arts thesis. Received a grade of Distinction. Advisors: Dr. Martha Kaplan and Dr. Colleen Cohen.

12/2016

Challenges to Cultural Heritage Preservation and Management at the Falemata'aga, the Museum of Sāmoa

- Capstone paper for study abroad program. Presented at Independent Study Project presentation. Formulated interview instrument, conducted interviews, and participant-observation at the Museum of Sāmoa in Apia, Sāmoa. Helped with data entry at the museum.

CONFERENCES AND INVITED TALKS

- 2023 American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting
Virtual
- Graduate Voices in the Lawscape
- 2022 American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting
Virtual
- More-than-Human Legalities and Non-Human Animal Encounters with the Law
- 2021 American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting
Virtual
- Emerging Geopolitics and Environmental Interventions in the Anthropocene
(Postponed to 2021 due to COVID-19 pandemic)
- 2020 Guest lecture for Dr. Kelly Kay's GEOG 171 (Geography of North America)
- Accepted to E Ala Mai: Awaking a New Oceanic Consciousness
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Center for Pacific Islands Studies Student Conference
- Canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- 2019 Blue Pacific: Reclaiming Oceania Futures
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Center for Pacific Islands Studies Student Conference
and Loloma Foundation Presentation
- Presented GoPro-Mediated Representations of Human Interactions with Colonial Infrastructures in Tahiti Nui, Mā'ohi Nui.
- 2018 18th International Graduate Student Conference
East-West Center
- Presented MA thesis chapter
- Ke Au Hou (A New Era): Sustaining Pacific Island Knowledge
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Center for Pacific Islands Studies Student Conference
- Entanglements and Imaginaries: GoPro Vacation Montages and Individual Engagement(s) with Pacific Places, Peoples, and Histories

CREATIVE WORKS

- 2023 Awful's Gas and Snack at San Francisco Climate Week
- Contributed audiovisual and written content for a narrative-driven, immersive art installation featured at the 2023 Francisco Climate Week
- Big Tiny Tarot Tent
- Aided in content development and building of honorarium-receiving immersive art installation at an arts space

- 2022
 - Facilitated participant experiences and constructed materials for the installation Alien Drive Thru (Food! At You), Burning Man (with Swing Shift Studio)
 - Aided in content development and building of honorarium-receiving narrative-driven performance and sculptural installation at Burning Man 2022, helped create audiovisual, narrative art content for the installation, wrote and acted as a character for the installation
 - Attended improvisational comedy and acting workshops in-person and over Zoom
 - Aided in camp logistics and planning
- 2021
 - KRIT News Story (Awful's Gas and Snack), Desert Alien Festival
 - Wrote and voice acted a radio news story about unethical lunar mining practices for an immersive art experience at an emerging arts festival.

LANGUAGES STUDIED

Tahitian: August 2017-May 2019. Participated in intensive study in Tahiti and Mo'orea, French Polynesia and at the University of French Polynesia. Conversational aural and speaking, elementary writing proficiency.

French: September 2007-May 2013, January 2018-December 2018. Advanced aural, reading, and speaking proficiency.

Sāmoan: August-December 2015. Elementary aural, reading, and speaking proficiency.

Modern Standard Arabic: August 2014-May 2015. Elementary aural, reading, and speaking proficiency.

English: Native.